

13-02-13

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Title: Hunting and Trapping in State Parks

The Problem:

Viewing wildlife is an intrinsic expectation of state park visitors. Allowing the removal of existing wildlife within the state park boundaries, per ACT 168, will appreciably diminish the presence of wildlife that have adapted a "comfort level" toward humans, which enhances the "viewing time" of park users. Free roaming wildlife, replaced by nonnative wildlife, if "harvested," will not provide the same expected experience for park users. In lieu of the fact that there are already well over 7 million acres of hunting lands available in Wisconsin, as opposed to 74,000 acres of State Park land, minus at least an additional 1/3 of the 74,000 acreage allotted to allow for hunting and trapping, per ACT 168, I propose that hunting and trapping in state parks be abolished. There is no evidence provided by the State of Wisconsin that there is a **valid** need to reduce any given population of species within the parameters of any state park boundaries. I also propose that fees paid by hunters or park users should be an irrelevant concern with regard to the determination of how Wisconsin's wildlife is managed. The management of wildlife populations throughout the state should take into consideration a more in depth regard for the **overall** intended use of the land before administering across the board policies to hunt and trap. The proposed resolution herein is to abolish hunting and trapping in state parks. All natural resources within the state parks should remain in the state parks.

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